

Thursday, July 26, 2007

House Meets At...	Votes Predicted At...
10:00 a.m. For Legislative Business	Last Vote: Evening
Ten "One-minutes" Per Side	

**Any anticipated Member absences for votes this week should be reported to the Office of the Majority Whip at 226-3210.**

### **Floor Schedule and Procedure**

- **H.R. 3093 – Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 (Rep. Mollohan-Appropriations):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Appropriations Committee Chairman Rep. David Obey, or his designee, and will proceed as follows:
  - Debate and votes on amendments to the bill.
  - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
  - Vote on passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**
- **H. Res. 574–Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2419 – Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act of 2007 and Reserve Fund En Bloc Amendment (Rep. Cardoza-Rules):** The structured rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Agriculture. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Agriculture now printed in the bill, modified by the amendments printed in Part A of the Rules Committee report, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill as amended shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment and shall be considered as read. The rule makes in order only those further amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report and amendments en bloc described in section 3 of the resolution. Section 3 of the rule allows the Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture to offer amendments en bloc consisting of amendments printed in part B of this report not earlier disposed of or to offer germane modifications to such. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Cardoza and consideration will proceed and follows:

- One hour of debate on the rule.
  - Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
  - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**
- **H.R. 2419 – Farm, Nutrition, and Bioenergy Act of 2007 (Rep. Peterson-Agriculture):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Agriculture Committee Chair Rep. Collin Peterson, or his designee, and will proceed as follows:
    - One hour of debate on the bill.
    - Debate and votes on amendments to the bill.
    - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
    - Vote on passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

### **Bill Summary and Key Issues**

#### **H.R. 3093 – Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008**

### **KEY INVESTMENTS**

#### **JUSTICE**

**State and Local Law Enforcement and Crime Prevention Grants:** \$3.2 billion, \$1.7 billion above the President's request and \$334 million above 2007. From 2001 to 2006, these programs were cut by \$1.9 billion (\$4.4 billion to \$2.5 billion). Last year, the FBI reported that violent crime increased in 2005 and 2006 for the first time in years.

- **Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS):** \$725 million, \$693 million over the President's request and \$183 million above 2007, to support local law enforcement agencies, including \$100 million for the "COPS on the Beat" hiring program, not funded since 2005. CRS estimates that 2,800 new police officers can be put on America's streets with these funds. The President's budget would have cut these grants by 94%.
- **Office on Violence Against Women:** \$430 million, \$60 million above the President's request and \$48 million above 2007, to reduce violence against women, and to strengthen services to victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.
- **Office of Justice Programs:** \$1.3 billion, \$78 million above 2007 and \$765 million above the President's request, for grants to state and local organizations for things like crime prevention, the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program, Drug Courts and Byrne Grants.
- **Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention:** \$400 million, \$62 million above 2007 and \$120 million above the President's request, for state and local grants to address the problems surrounding juvenile offenders, including \$100 million for a competitive youth mentoring grants program.

**FBI Salaries and Expenses:** \$6.498 billion, \$509 million above 2007 and \$148 million above the President's request. According to the FBI, at the President's request the Bureau would need to institute a hiring freeze, postpone new programs, and cut operations across the board.

- Includes an additional \$71 million for counterterrorism and criminal investigation efforts, allowing the Bureau to hire an additional 272 agents.

**Drug Enforcement Agency:** \$2.082 billion, \$125 million above 2007 and \$40 million above the President's request for programs to fight illegal drug use.

- **Mobile Enforcement Teams:** \$20.5 million, the same as 2007 and eliminated in the President's request, to help local law enforcement entities attack the violent drug organizations in their neighborhoods.

**Federal Prison System (Salaries and Expenses):** \$5.2 billion, \$179 million above 2007 and \$20 million above the President's request, for education and substance abuse treatment programs proven to reduce the likelihood that inmates will commit crimes after their release.

**DOJ's Office of Inspector General:** \$75 million, \$4 million above 2007 and \$1.5 million above the President's request, for investigations and audits regarding the U.S. Attorneys firings, National Security Letters, and SENTINEL - the FBI's new case management system.

## **SCIENCE**

**Science and Science Education:** \$28 billion, \$2 billion above 2007 and \$1 billion above the President's request for science and science education as part of the Innovation Agenda to keep America competitive in the global market.

**Global Climate Change:** \$1.85 billion, \$164 million above the President's request, for initiatives including: a National Academies' Climate Change Committee to study and investigate issues relating to Global Climate Change and issue a report making recommendations on strategies to address it; advanced sensors at NASA (Total Solar Irradiance Sensors) and NOAA (Earth Radiation Budget Sensor) to ensure the continuation of long-term climate data records essential to understanding global climate change; an incentive program to assist businesses in the development of strategies to combat global warming; and funding for specific research and education projects.

### **National Aeronautics and Space Administration:**

- **Science:** \$5.7 billion, \$325 million above 2007 and \$180 million above the President's request, for scientific research in space such as the Hubble Space Telescope, the Mars Rovers, and the Earth Science missions.
- **Aeronautics:** \$700 million, \$146 million above the President's request, for aeronautical research including fuel efficiency, air traffic patterns, and reducing emissions, to maintain U.S. competitiveness in the global marketplace and to protect national security.

- **Exploration:** \$3.9 billion, \$467 million above 2007 and the same as the President's request, for new technology and capability for manned exploration in space.
- **Education:** \$220.3 million, \$80.3 million above 2007 and \$66.6 million above the President's request, for education dedicated to space, including the \$10 million for Global Climate Change education.

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration:** \$4.0 billion, \$56.9 million above 2007 and \$141 million above the President's request, including the Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program to protect the land surrounding our nation's coasts and estuaries.

**National Science Foundation:**

- **Research:** \$5.14 billion, \$474 million above 2007 and \$8 million above the President's request, putting NSF on track to double over the next 10 years in order to ensure the U.S. maintains its position as a global leader in scientific research and technology.
- **Education and Human Resources:** \$822 million, \$26 million above 2007 and \$72 million over the President's request, to support quality math and science education including \$36 million for the Robert Noyce Scholarship to encourage young scientists to become math and science teachers.

**National Institute of Standards and Technology Research:** \$831.2 million, \$154.3 million above 2007 and \$190.5 million above the President's request, to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve our quality of life.

- **Advanced Technology Program (ATP):** \$93 million, \$14 million above 2007 and eliminated in the President's request, for investments in early-stage, innovative technologies.
- **Manufacturing Extension Partnerships (MEP):** \$108.7 million, \$4 million above 2007 and \$62.4 million above the President's request to help small and mid-size manufacturers compete globally by providing them with technical advice and access to the latest technology.
- **Construction of Research Facilities:** \$128.8 million, \$70 million above 2007 and \$35 million above the President's request for additional science research facilities including \$35 million for competitive grants for colleges, universities, and non-profit science research organizations to construct research science buildings.

**Other Department of Commerce:**

**Census Bureau:** \$1.2 billion, \$339 million above 2007 and \$2 million above the President's request, including \$19 million for full implementation of the Survey of Income and Program Participation, and \$13 million for outreach efforts.

**Economic Development Assistance Programs:** \$270 million, \$19.2 million above 2007 and \$100 million above the President's request, to promote innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

**Related Agencies:**

**Legal Services Corporation:** \$377 million, \$28 million above 2007 and \$66 million above the President's request, for civil legal assistance to people who are unable to afford it, allowing an additional 31,000 low-income client cases to be concluded. The program was funded at \$400 million in 1995 and has been cut repeatedly since. A 2005 study found that for every eligible person served, another was turned away due to lack of resources.

**Equal Employment Opportunity Commission:** \$333 million, \$4 million above 2007 and \$5 million over the President's request, to reduce the backlog of pending cases - projected to increase 70% from 2006 to 2008 under the President's request – and requires that all complaint calls be handled by EEOC employees, canceling the outsourcing of this service.

**SIGNIFICANT CUTS**

**Equal Employment Opportunity Commission:** Cuts \$2.5 million used to outsource the call center to ensure federal employees handle discrimination charges.

**Herbert C. Hoover Building Renovation:** \$3.3 million, \$0.9 million below the request.

**Technology Administration at Commerce:** \$1 million, \$1 million below 2007 and \$500,000 below the President's request, enough to shut down the program as it has functioned only as an unnecessary layer of management.

**OTHER IMPORTANT POLICY ITEMS**

**FBI National Security Letters:** Prohibits authorizing national security letters in contravention of the law. The Inspector General identified FBI abuses and misuses of the FBI's authority to review customer records of suspected foreign agents.

**Prohibiting the Privatization of Federal Prison Employees:** Prohibits the privatization of work performed by employees of the Bureau of Prisons or of Federal Prison Industries, Inc.

**Right to Appeal Privatization:** Allows Federal employees the same appeals rights as contractors after decisions are made on public-private competitions.  
**Moratorium on Reduction in Force at NASA:** Continues a moratorium prohibiting NASA from implementing planned staff reductions.

**H.R. 2419 - FARM BILL EXTENSION ACT OF 2007****A REFORM BILL FOR THE FUTURE...**

The 2007 Farm Bill is a carefully balanced package that includes real reforms to protect family farmers and agriculture in America in a fiscally responsible way. The bill will make sure U.S. farmers are around to put food on America's tables so we don't need to worry about unreliable, and often unsafe, imports.

### **FOCUSING ON REAL FARMERS...**

The payment limitation package in the 2007 Farm Bill cracks down on subsidies and saves more than a half billion dollars. The bill redirects those funds to the people who need it most: working family farmers and ranchers. Farm Bill benefits won't go to millionaire farmers any more. The bill imposes the first ever limit that prevents millionaires from receiving farm subsidy benefits and offers complete transparency so the public knows taxpayer dollars are getting to the family farmers who need them.

### **HELPING FAMILIES IN NEED...**

The 2007 Farm Bill reauthorizes nutrition programs, accounting for two-thirds of the bill's funding, to help low income families in need, including the food stamp program that keeps many Americans from going hungry. The bill increases the minimum benefit under the Food Stamp program for the first time in 30 years, and indexes it to inflation. It eliminates the current cap on childcare costs to help the working poor meet rising costs. In addition, it nearly doubles the funding for the Emergency Food Assistant Program and expands the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program to all 50 states.

### **A HEALTHY INVESTMENT...**

The legislation makes historic investments in programs to support fruit and vegetable producers who have not received traditional Farm Bill benefits. The bill provides \$1.6 billion in funding for fruit and vegetable programs, including nutrition, research, pest management and trade promotion programs. It increases and expands the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Snack Program to schools in all 50 States and allows Senior Farmers Markets to expand six-fold. The bill provides mandatory funding for organic certification cost share and authorizes a new incentive payment program for farmers wanting to convert to organic production.

### **IMPROVING THE ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTING OPEN SPACES...**

The 2007 Farm Bill makes conservation a cornerstone of agriculture for all producers in all regions of the country. The bill increases funding and access to conservation programs to preserve farm and ranchland, improve water quality and quantity, and enhance soil conservation, air quality, and wildlife habitat on working lands.

### **STIMULATING RURAL ECONOMIES...**

The 2007 Farm Bill also includes key provisions that invest in rural communities nationwide, including economic development programs that target rural areas in need and broadband telecommunication services to bridge the digital divide and provide access to rural, underserved areas.

### **SECURING AMERICA'S ENERGY FUTURE...**

The 2007 Farm Bill boosts funding for renewable energy programs by 600 percent. It encourages the production of renewable energy, including biofuels and biobased products that protects our environment and encourages energy independence. It provides loan guarantees for the development of biorefineries that process biofuels from dedicated energy crops and agriculture and forestry waste materials, a key step toward bringing more renewable fuels to market in America.

## **Anticipated Amendments to H.R. 2419**

**1. Kind (WI):** The Fairness in Farm and Food Policy Amendment will reform the farmer safety net to work better for small farmers at lower cost, reallocate funding to nutrition, conservation, specialty crops and healthy foods, rural development, and programs that benefit socially disadvantaged farmers., (40 minutes)

**2. Frank (MA)/Bachus (AL):** The amendment strikes five sections from Title V of the bill (Agribusiness loan eligibility, Loan-to-asset value requirements, Population limit for single-family housing loans, Majority farmer control requirement, and Borrower stock requirement), which expand the lending authority of the Farm Credit System., (10 minutes)

**3. Goodlatte (VA):** The amendment streamlines and adopts one set of terms and conditions of easements for the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), Grasslands Reserve Program (GRP), Farmland and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP), and Healthy Forest Reserve Program (HFRP). , (10 minutes)

**4. Lucas (OK):** The amendment would make livestock producers eligible for livestock assistance programs regardless of whether they had Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance (NAP) coverage., (10 minutes)

**5. Cardoza (CA):** The amendment requires USDA to transition Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) employees responsible for plant pest inspection duties back to USDA from the Department of Homeland Security in order to better serve the needs of American agriculture., (10 minutes)

**6. Boustany (LA)/Alexander (LA):** The amendment states that in the case of sweet potatoes, Risk Management Agency Pilot Program data shall not be considered for purposes of determining production for the 2005-2006 Farm Service Agency Crop Disaster Program., (10 minutes)

**7. Jackson-Lee (TX):** The amendment is intended to express the sense of Congress that the food available to schoolchildren under the school breakfast and lunch program should be selected so as to reduce the incidence of juvenile obesity and to maximize nutritional value., (10 minutes)

**8. Hastings (FL):** The amendment adds a new section for "Pollinator Protection" that authorizes research funding to reduce North American pollinator decline and understand Colony Collapse Disorder. This amendment also adjusts USDA conservation programs to put a greater emphasis on increasing habitat and establishing cropping and integrated pest management practices to protect native and managed pollinators. , (10 minutes)

**9. Arcuri (NY)/Welch (VT)/Gillibrand (NY):** The amendment expresses the Sense of Congress that the Secretary of Agriculture should use existing authority when determining the Class I milk price mover to take into account the increased cost of production, including energy and feed. , (10 minutes)

**10. Welch (VT):** The amendment encourages schools to submit plans for implementation to the Secretary that include locally grown foods, in areas where geographically available. , (10 minutes)

**11. Welch (VT)/Arcuri (NY):** The amendment adds a provision to the review process for the Federal Milk Marketing Order Review Commission to include an evaluation of cost of production variables, including cost of feed and cost of fuel. Additionally, it encourages the Commission to be regionally diverse, and moves up the date from 24 months to 18 months after the enactment of this bill. , (10 minutes)

**12. Rangel (NY):** The amendment removes certain banking restrictions related to Cuba's payment for agricultural purchases from U.S. producers. It also authorizes direct transfers between Cuban banks and U.S. banks and allows visas to be issued to conduct activities related to purchasing U.S. agricultural goods., (10 minutes)

**13. Boehner (OH):** The amendment would replace the current daily posted county prices (PCPs) used for determining loan deficiency payment rates and repayment rates for marketing assistance loans with a monthly PCP for each crop. It would revise requirements for establishing a producer's loan deficiency payment (LDP) and loan repayment rate to be based on the month that beneficial interest is lost. The amendment aims to address farmers taking advantage of short-term market events to lock in artificially high loan deficiency payments, while actually selling the commodity later at prices well above the loan rate. , (10 minutes)

**14. Johnson, Eddie Bernice (TX):** The amendment adds the additional point to Subtitle B of the research title that emphasis should be placed on proposals that examine the efficacy of current agriculture policies in promoting the health and welfare of economically disadvantaged populations (in addition to supporting research/ health promotion to "solve the problems of nutritional inadequacy)., (10 minutes)

**15. Manzullo (IL):** The amendment exempts the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) from the \$60,000 and \$125,000 payment limitations, resetting it to the \$450,000 limitation that is in the current law., (10 minutes)

**16. Blumenauer (OR):** The amendment would make conservation easements purchased through a transferable development rights program eligible for grants under the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program. Transferable Development Rights (TDR) programs are a voluntary, market-based tool used by states and cities to protect farmland, private property rights, and taxpayer dollars by allowing the transfer of development rights from one parcel of land to another., (10 minutes)

**17. Latham (IA):** The amendment amends the Household Water Well System Program, which makes grants to non-profit organizations to finance the construction, refurbishing, and servicing of individually owned household water well systems in rural areas for individuals with low or moderate incomes, to allow the use of in-kind contributions to meet the required federal funding match of 10%. The amendment also clarifies that in-kind contributions used to meet the match can be for no purpose other than to administer the water well grant program., (10 minutes)



**18. Berry (AR):** The amendment will prohibit non-profit organizations with more than \$50 million in direct public support from receiving conservation payments., (10 minutes)

**19. Davis, Danny (IL)/Kirk (IL):** The amendment strikes the sugar sections in the commodity title as well as the feedstock flexibility program for bioenergy producers, extending current programs until 2012., (10 minutes)

**20. Terry (NE):** The amendment creates a competitive demonstration project designed to provide proof of concept in supplementing corn with sweet sorghum as an ethanol feedstock., (10 minutes)

**21. Udall, Mark (CO):** The amendment reduces the direct payment rate for cotton by 2/3 of a cent. The resulting savings would be used to fund enrollment of 224,000 additional acres in the Grasslands Reserve Program., (10 minutes)

**22. Wu (OR):** The amendment broadens the eligible universities by adding that universities that do work in alternative energy related fields, such as agriculture, chemistry, environmental sciences, bioengineering, biochemistry, natural resources and public policy are eligible for the biofuels from biomass internship program., (10 minutes)

**23. Clay (MO):** The amendment would make grants to eligible entities to assist in purchasing operating organic gardens or greenhouses in urban areas for growing fruits and vegetables., (10 minutes)

**24. Israel (NY)/Doyle (PA):** The amendment would eliminate the sale of random source animals for research and will prohibit the marketing of medical devices by using live animals in demonstrations to market such devices.,(10 minutes)

**25. Putnam (FL):** The amendment prohibits individuals from receiving farm conservation payments if their income exceeds \$1 million, unless 75% of the income comes from farm income. (10 minutes)

**26. Bordallo (GU):** The amendment authorizes a grants program to assist the land grant institutions in the U.S. territories in upgrading facilities and equipment in the agricultural and food sciences. It authorizes appropriations for five years in the amount of \$8 million per year. It authorizes USDA to vary award amounts and to establish competitive criteria for the program., (10 minutes)

**27. Cooper (TN):** The amendment will comprehensively reform the federal crop insurance program, including the Administration's farm bill crop insurance proposals. This amendment saves approximately \$4 billion while adding resources to the Grassland Reserve Program., (10 minutes)

**28. Emanuel (IL):** The amendment directs the USDA to investigate which estates have been receiving payments in the name of dead farmers and recoup payments made in the name of deceased individuals., (10 minutes)

**29. Hall, John (NY):** The amendment would establish a program to encourage environmentally responsible practices on actively farmed muck soil land., (10 minutes)

**30. Hodes (NH)/Arcuri (NY):** The amendment authorizes a grant program for state and local communities and governments known as the Community Wood Energy Program to use low-grade wood biomass in community wood energy systems for state and locally owned businesses such as schools, town halls, and courthouses., (10 minutes)

**31. Shuler (NC):** The amendment allows non-industrial private forest lands to be eligible for emergency restoration funds if the Secretary determines that insect or disease poses an imminent threat of loss or damage to those lands., (10 minutes)

### **Quote of the Day**

"There is nothing wrong with America that the faith, love of freedom, intelligence and energy of her citizens cannot cure."  
-Dwight D. Eisenhower

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